



6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, TX 78238

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEON VALLEY TREE ADVISORY BOARD**

Meeting of the Leon Valley Tree Advisory Board (TAB) at 6:00 PM, on Thursday, September 11, 2014, in the Leon Valley City Hall, at 6400 El Verde Road, Leon Valley, Texas.

### **I. Poll for Attendance and Determination of a Quorum.**

- Staff Liaison: Kristie Flores (Present)
- TAB Forester: Mark Kroeze, Alamo Region Urban Forester (Present)
- Members Present: Irene Baldridge, Thomas Benavides, Denise Berger, Melinda Dawson, and Diana Sarfin
- Members Absent: Lyn Joseph, Mary Key, and Rich Sarfin
- Guests: LV Mayor Chris Riley and LV Citizens
- Bexar County Flood Control Guest Speakers: Bobby Mengden P.E., CFM, Elaiza Alvarez, P.E., Laurie Hawkins (Ecologist/Arborist), and Richard Caudell (Arborist).

### **II. Approval of Minutes - August 20, 2014.**

- Minutes approved as written.

### **III. Presentation Updating the Status of the LC-17 Project - Bobby Mengden P.E., CFM (Bexar County Flood Control Project Director).**

Mr. Mengden presented a Power Point slide updating the current the LC-17 Project. Discussions are as follows:

- Introduction.
  - Bexar County Flood Control Project team was introduced (Ms. Alvarez, Ms. Hawkins, and Mr. Caudell).
  - LC-17 Project was approved by the Army Corp of Engineers.
  - Slide presentation can be found on the city's webpage.  
[http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/docs/LC\\_17\\_Bexar\\_County\\_Flood\\_Control\\_Project.pdf](http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/docs/LC_17_Bexar_County_Flood_Control_Project.pdf)
- Benefits of LC-17 in Leon Valley.
  - Fifty-four homes and Seventy-three acres have been removed from the floodplain.
  - San Antonio Crystal Hills Park will be linked to the Leon Valley Rimkus Park via future trail.
  - Project includes a fully paid 5-year maintenance contract for the newly planted trees and vegetation.
  - Will protect the future fire department building and the current city facilities.
- Project Status.
  - LC-17 Project began in 2008.
  - Segment II will be completed in Spring of 2015.
  - Segment III begins in Summer of 2015. Will take approximately 18 months to complete.
  - Total cost to the County is 30 million dollars (1 million for trees/vegetation).
- Tree and Vegetation Plan.
  - One Hundred new trees will be planted. None will be planted in the channel and watering will be accomplished via Gator Bags or by Biological Gel.
  - There are approximately 1,204 trees, 96 will be preserved and the others will be removed.
  - The drought has affected many trees, many are dying and some are already dead.
  - Some of the new trees to be planted include Cedar Elm, Redbud, Oaks, Mexican Buckeye, and Mountain Laurel.
  - Five aquatic depressions will be dug in the middle of the channel in order to promote wetland vegetation. Drainage inlets from El Verde Road will flow into the depressions.
  - Native grasses and wetland vegetation will be planted in the channel.
  - Sewer Lines are undersized in the channel and will be upgraded.
  - Ideas to repurpose the trees include giving the wood away, utility poles, woodchips, logs for protection of banks and paths, and relocation of trees.

- LV TAB Input.

-- TAB has already met with the Green Wood Milling Company (San Antonio) to discuss repurposing the trees from the project area. They make a wide variety of custom products from native trees to include the following:

--- Custom architectural and decorative items according to customer's specifications.

--- Dimensional lumber, benches, chairs, bar stools, tables (coffee, dining, etc.), shelving, ladders, kitchen islands, counters, cutting boards, cabinets, swings, and flooring.

-- TAB will meet soon to evaluate and tag suitable trees in the project area that can be repurposed.

- Questions/Answers.

-- Will Raymond Rimkus Park be affected? No.

-- Where will the trail be located? The trail will be on the high bank side of the channel and the City of Leon Valley will construct it sometime in the future.

-- Is recycle water available to water the new trees and small park area? Yes, but the City of Leon Valley will have to negotiate that with the San Antonio Water System.

-- Who is responsible for maintaining the land that was purchased for the project? The County is currently responsible for all aspects. Once the trees and vegetation is planted, it will be maintained by a contract for 5 years. The City will then take over after that period.

-- Will the center channel be constructed of cement? No, it will be natural because of the aquatic depressions that will be constructed.

-- What is going on with the drainage inlets on El Verde Rd.? They are currently undersized and will be brought up to standards. Additional drainage inlets will be constructed to help move the water from El Verde Rd. to the channel. When the project is completed, there will be 5 drainage inlets, each one will be directed to a separate aquatic depression.

**IV. Discussion of Upcoming 6th Annual Arbor Day - Saturday, November 1, 2014.**

- We are currently looking for a non-profit to help fund the 5K walk/run.

- The poster contest will begin in October.

- CPS is donating approximately 200 trees for the tree adoption.

- The Leon Valley Walgreen's will partner with TAB for the event.

**V. Announcements.**

- None.

**VI. Executive Session in Accordance with the Texas Local Government Code.**

- Not required.

**VII. Adjourn**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

- The next meeting of the TAB is set for Thursday, October 9, 2014, at 6:00 PM in the Leon Valley City Hall.



Chairperson